



May 26, 2011

Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners
FCC Washington Headquarters Building
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

We are writing you, on behalf of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, in regards to the recent acquisition of T-Mobile USA by AT&T. This merger is truly good news for working families, for our state, and for our communities.

It is our understanding that T-Mobile was going to be sold; the only question is to whom. We strongly believe that AT&T is the best choice for consumers and the workers delivering the service. AT&T is the nation's only union wireless provider. When approved, the acquisition will allow the majority of workers in the wireless industry to gain a voice on the job through joining a union. Providing current T-Mobile employees with jobs that will now have a good wage, health care, and pension, only adds to the strength of our economic recovery. The growth and partnership with Communications Workers of America (CWA), who represent the workers, will provide for better service and a stronger network.

AT&T and T-Mobile have followed similar paths in the development of their technology, so integrating these two companies should go smoothly. AT&T's customers will benefit from the additional spectrum that T-Mobile brings to the table. The result will be a next-generation network that will reach more than 97 percent of Americans, and the vast majority of Minnesotans.

Additionally, the acquisition promises sorely needed increased broadband access and speed in our rural communities and underserved urban areas, which will give families across the state access to faster, more reliable service. Wireless broadband expansion not only aides communities and businesses, it helps us compete in the global marketplace.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Shar Knutson
President

Steve Hunter
Secretary-Treasurer

CC: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

SK/SH
opeiu12/afl-cio

175 Aurora Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: 651/227-7647
Fax: 651/227-3801

Toll Free: 800/652-9004
Web Site: www.mnafcio.org